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PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1915.

He who lights another's candle with his own makes the scay of both brighter.

Hands Across the Continent

FORMER GOVERNOR TENER reminded both California and Pennsylvania at the dedication of the Pennsylvania Building at the Panama Fair, yesterday, that there are close bonds of interest between the States on the opposite sides of the continent.

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ITALY'S REPEAL OF AN OLDEN STATUTE

For Immediate Advantages Italy Risks the Creation of a New German Empire and of a Powerful and Hostile Slavic State.

By FRANK H. SIMONDS

NO CAREFUL study of the map is required to demonstrate how excessive, how impossible, from the Austrian point of view, are the Italian demands. What Italy asks is the entire seacoast of Austria-Hungary.

Two years ago Austria intervened to deny Serbia a "window on the sea"; now Austria is asked to surrender her.

There are two different questions raised by the Italian demand: First, as to the character of the territory asked and the justice of the Italian claim. Second, as to the immediate and remote political consequences if the Italian appetite should be satisfied.

What Italy actually demands falls into three distinct categories, the Trentino, Trieste and the Istrian littoral, with Fiume and the Adriatic islands.

Accepting the Trentino as meaning the Italian-speaking communities on Lago di Garda and in the middle valley of the Adige, there is every reason in the world why it should be Italian. The people are by race, language, sympathy Latin. It was lost to Italy only by accident.

But Italy does not stop with the Italian communes. She also demands Meran, Bozen, the upper valley of the Adige and the whole valley of the Etsch. Here the population is German. Geographically the country belongs to Italy, since it is south of the Alps.

Strategically it would fortify Italy and give her a "scientific" frontier, but there is no question of freeing Italians; rather it is an effort to enslave Teutons.

A similar situation exists in the districts about Trieste and in the peninsula of Istria. Trieste is quite as Italian as Genoa. Pola and the shore towns of Istria are equally so.

But practically the whole hinterland is peopled by Slovenes, who are Slavs, not Latins, who prefer to be subjects of Austria to becoming Italians and who can be annexed only against their will.

The islands of the Dalmatian coast all bear Italian names. They belonged to the Adriatic empire of Venice and a portion of their population has been Latinized. But in the main the people are Slavs; their natural allegiance politically is with the Slavs of the eastern mainland, not with the Latins of the remoter shore.

Save in the districts about Trent and in Trieste Italy is not merely seeking to redeem old Italian lands and liberate Italian-speaking populations, now the reluctant subjects of a Hapsburg. She is quite as patently seeking to extend her frontiers to include people of races as hostile to her as Austrian Italians are disloyal to their present sovereign.

Austria's Door to the Sea. On the political side the problem is even more complex. To cede the whole of the Austrian Tyrol south of the crest of the Alps will be an unimportant sacrifice for Austria, a price she could well afford to pay for Italian neutrality. But to part with Trieste, Fiume and the Istrian littoral—this is to sign her own death warrant, for it would deprive the Austro-Hungarian Empire of a door on the sea.

What would follow such a cession has long been recognized. Today Russia holds most of Galicia, Bukovina, and Transylvania have been marked by Rumania as her share in the Austrian estate. Bosnia, Herzegovina and Dalmatia will go to Serbia if the Allies win. The Austro-Hungarian Empire will then be an unnatural combination of two fragments ruled by races economically, politically, socially distinct.

In such a situation Hungary is almost certain to seek her independence again. As for the balance of Austria, its destiny leads to Berlin. Deprived of an exit on the sea, it must seek an outlet through German ports and follow Bavaria into the German Empire, thus adding 20,000,000 to the population of the Hohenzollern realm.

Menace of a New German Empire. For Italy such a change would be fraught with instant peril. The 85,000,000 inhabitants of the new German Empire would look with natural impatience upon the thin strip of Italian territory separating them from the southern sea. Prince von Buelow himself is reported to have described Trieste as a German lunge.

Quite in the same fashion the destruction of Austria would drive Croatia and Slavonia into the new Serb State and thus erect on the eastern shore of the Adriatic a compact Slav State bound to be a rival of Italy, sure to seek to regain the Adriatic islands, held by Italy and obstructing the Slav window on the Adriatic. Such a State would, too, have the support of Russia, also become a Mediterranean State by the occupation of Constantinople and the straits. In Northern Albania the Italians and the Slavs would clash as Greeks and Italians have in the south, and Italy might find herself faced by a hostile Balkan confederacy as well as an ambitious Germany.

Briefly, then, to obtain small territorial increases Italy risks, almost insures, the destruction of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. She would gain perhaps 500,000 population, she would bring down to her own border a new German Empire. In addition, by enslaving some thousands of Slavs she would insure the unification of all the southern Slavs in a powerful and hostile state, certain of the patronage and protection of Russia.

As to Austria-Hungary, she cannot cede Trieste, Fiume or the Istrian peninsula. For her the question is one of life and death. For Austria Trieste is vital. Fiume is Hungary's only seaport. The Trentino she can cede, the islands of the Adriatic conceivably, but more she cannot give and exist, and she will naturally choose to perish fighting. And against Italy Hungarians and Slavs, as well as Austrian Germans, will fight loyally.

Conceivably Italy has asked more than she will take. But all signs point in the other direction. So far as it is possible to see, what Italy has asked she can take by force of arms. The only actual restraint must flow from a recognition of the eventual consequences of too great greed now. This nations seldom consider when they can make immediate profits.

The passing of Turkey has long been discounted. Early in the Great War it began to appear that Austrian existence was in peril. Day by day fate seems to have turned more and more against Franz Josef, stricken in years and carrying the burden of unparalleled personal as well as national dis-

BEST THOUGHT IN AMERICA

DIGEST OF THE MAGAZINES

(1) World's Work—"Man and His Machines." (2) Review of Reviews—"Battleship vs. Submarine." (3) Everybody's—"The Man Who Built the Zeppelin." (4) Scientific American—"How Electricity Makes the Iron Cross." (5) North American Review—"Burning Glasses, Dundonald's Destroyer?"

INGENUITY. IT IS probably civilization's grimmest irony that for every step up in constructive thought and ingenuity there must stalk implacably alongside a proportionate advance in destructive energy, in the facility of tearing down and destroying. It is a ferocious and destructive array of machinery and invention that frowns at you from the magazine pages in these days, but it is only natural that the stimulus of war should set all the little demonic sprites of destruction to work with new enthusiasm.

Cathedrals that it took centuries of patient and loving labor to build up can be battered and shelled down with the new siege guns in as many hours—which suggests the element of time-saving in these modern inventions.

There are still some peaceful inventors at work, no doubt, trying to make life easier and more convenient for the ordinary individual. In fact, World's Work records the latest achievements of several such, and because of their rarity they shall be set down first (1):

Air Towels.—The air towel is a device for drying the hands. It is a rectangular casing that has an opening in the top for the hands. At the base is a foot pedal which closes a quick-acting switch, thereby putting into operation a blower that distributes warmed air to all parts of the hands at the same time. The hands are thoroughly dried in 30 seconds.

Heating Houses With Gas.—Each radiator is an independent and self-sustaining unit. The temperature of each room is governed by its own thermostat. All that is necessary to bring the atmosphere up to a certain degree is to set the thermostat to that degree. The radiator does the rest, the gas being turned off automatically when the temperature of the room is half a degree higher than that desired, and turned on again automatically when the heat falls half a degree below that desired. Changes of temperature for different hours may be obtained by clock thermostats. The thermostat may be set so that the temperature will remain at 50 degrees all through the night, and a few minutes before 8, it will automatically turn the radiator to 70 degrees.

Electric Dish Washer.—Designed for family use, it washes, rinses and dries its load in three minutes. The machine consists of a small high-speed, one-inch centrifugal pump directly connected to a one-fourth horsepower motor. The dishes are placed in a circular rack. Water, forced into a perforated cylinder in the center of the rack, is sprayed on the dishes under sufficient pressure to cleanse them thoroughly. Hot, clean, rinsing water is then run in. When this is drained off, the heat that is retained in the covered washing chamber rapidly dries the dishes.

Destruction by Construction. There is a brief and comprehensive summary of facts about the submarine in the Review of Reviews (2):

Certain eminent authorities—like Admiral Sir Percy Scott of England—are of opinion that the submarine has sounded the death knell of the dreadnoughts, and that to build more of these costly battleships is sheer waste of money.

In the first place, it will solidify the opposition to the reigning organization. It will stop the trickery and deal incidental to fusion.

Fifty names have lost all the glamour they once possessed. It will help the Democrats, who will be stimulated to put their best foot forward and in so doing eliminate all would-be bosses.

The Democratic party has elected in the past men of their faith in Philadelphia and not one of them has proved recreant to his trust. The names of Daniel M. Fox, Henry E. Leichter, Robert E. Pattison, William Redwood Wright, Lewis C. Cassidy, Michael J. Ryan and William Eisenbrow come to mind who have been elected on straight party tickets in this stronghold of Republicanism, and the party is still rich with men who would honor their fellow-citizens in any office they would be called upon to fill. Men of the calibre of John Caldwell, James J. Gordon, Samuel E. Fein, George W. Morris, Henry Buda, A. Hammond Bass, Robert T. Bright, W. Horace Hoopes and more, and more!

Crowd and their kind can pass bills, and stick their heads in the sand, but they cannot obliterate records that are written history. So let them have all the rope necessary, Philadelphia can manage her own affairs.

STEWART W. JENNINGS. Philadelphia, March 16.

MAKING THE IRON CROSS

How Electricity Makes the Iron Cross.

By FRANK H. SIMONDS

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THE WORD WITHIN THEE

I pray for faith, I long to trust; I listen with my heart, and hear A Voice without a sound. 'Tis just to be true, be merciful, reverse The Word within thee: God is near.

—John Greenleaf Whittier